

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND DIVISION

CONFIDENTIAL

RICHARD WALKER,

Plaintiff,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:20-cv-773

ALLIANCE OUTDOOR GROUP, INC.,
and
ALLIANCE OUTDOORS PRODUCTS, INC.,
d/b/a X-STAND TREESTANDS,

Defendants.

AUDIO-VISUAL VIDEOTAPED
DEPOSITION UPON ORAL EXAMINATION
OF NATHAN M. STIEREN,
TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFF

Unionville, Missouri

August 31, 2021

EXHIBIT

tabbles

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KATHLEEN BEARD ADAMS, CCR, RPR, CRR

Court Reporter

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 beneath the protective layer; is that right?</p> <p>2 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form.</p> <p>3 A. Well, just a general statement is, you</p> <p>4 know, steel is a corroding part. The protective</p> <p>5 cover is -- I don't know what material it's made,</p> <p>6 but it's -- it's not made of steel.</p> <p>7 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>8 Q. All right. And -- and the -- the steel</p> <p>9 is -- is inside the -- the protective part; right?</p> <p>10 A. That's correct.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. The treestand failed in this case</p> <p>12 because of corrosion and fatigue; correct?</p> <p>13 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form, assumes</p> <p>14 facts not in evidence, and foundation. He just told</p> <p>15 you he didn't know what -- what was going on. I</p> <p>16 mean, come on.</p> <p>17 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>18 Q. Do you need to have the question</p> <p>19 repeated?</p> <p>20 A. Please.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. The treestand failed in this case</p> <p>22 because of corrosion and fatigue; correct?</p> <p>23 A. I don't know --</p> <p>24 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form,</p> <p>25 misstates --</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 foundation.</p> <p>2 A. Yeah. I don't really know what context</p> <p>3 you're putting that in. You're -- I would be</p> <p>4 completely speculating by -- by answering that.</p> <p>5 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>6 Q. But it's foreseeable that during the use</p> <p>7 of the treestand one might stumble and fall against</p> <p>8 the upper portion of the stand; right?</p> <p>9 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form and</p> <p>10 foundation.</p> <p>11 A. Again, I think the answer is the same.</p> <p>12 You know, I -- I don't know anything about the</p> <p>13 context of -- of the question. I -- you know, I'd</p> <p>14 be -- I'd be completely speculating.</p> <p>15 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>16 Q. Have you ever used the treestand at</p> <p>17 issue in this case?</p> <p>18 A. You know, I don't remember. If -- if I</p> <p>19 had it would have been many years ago, but I -- I</p> <p>20 can't say one way or another.</p> <p>21 Q. Have you ever gone hunting with using a</p> <p>22 two-part treestand before?</p> <p>23 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form.</p> <p>24 A. You know, I don't think that I have, but</p> <p>25 I don't know if I -- I don't know if I have or not</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 A. I don't --</p> <p>2 MR. SUTTON: -- misstates facts. Go</p> <p>3 ahead.</p> <p>4 A. I don't know the details of the case. I</p> <p>5 would just be speculating.</p> <p>6 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. You don't know whether pinch</p> <p>8 points are created on the cable when you fold in the</p> <p>9 wings of the stand; is that right?</p> <p>10 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form.</p> <p>11 A. Yeah. Again I'm not really sure what --</p> <p>12 what -- what you're asking.</p> <p>13 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>14 Q. What were the differences between the</p> <p>15 2015 and later models?</p> <p>16 A. I don't know the answer to that.</p> <p>17 MR. SUTTON: Objection, foundation.</p> <p>18 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>19 Q. You don't know who actually manufactured</p> <p>20 the steel wire for the 2015 product?</p> <p>21 A. That's correct.</p> <p>22 Q. It's foreseeable from a design</p> <p>23 perspective that someone might stumble and fall</p> <p>24 against the upper stand; right?</p> <p>25 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 actually went hunting with one.</p> <p>2 BY MR. SPINELLI:</p> <p>3 Q. Have you ever gone hunting in a</p> <p>4 treestand of any type?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. When was that?</p> <p>7 A. I hunt -- I hunt every year. I -- so</p> <p>8 maybe last fall would have been the last time.</p> <p>9 Q. What kind of treestand do you use?</p> <p>10 A. We mostly use box blinds and ladder</p> <p>11 stands. And just sometimes I will go to an</p> <p>12 outfitter and we just use, you know, whatever they</p> <p>13 have. They'll have their own equipment.</p> <p>14 Q. Got you. Have you ever -- have you ever</p> <p>15 stumbled or misplaced your foot while using any of</p> <p>16 those treestands?</p> <p>17 A. Not that I can remember.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. But it's -- it's -- it's</p> <p>19 certainly possible for -- for that to happen; right?</p> <p>20 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form.</p> <p>21 Q. It hasn't happened in your recollection,</p> <p>22 but it's certainly possible that that could happen;</p> <p>23 right?</p> <p>24 MR. SUTTON: Objection to form and</p> <p>25 foundation.</p>